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ABSTRACT

As part of a larger study prepared to provide local leaders with information on socioeconomic characteristics and household attitudes in four Kentucky counties, this databook on Whitley County is compiled from 1961 (open country area) and 1973 (open country and nonopen country area) surveys. The sampling procedure involved a random selection of small-area sample segments and then a random selection of households to be interviewed. Interpretive summaries are provided for the following survey components: (1) Residential Characteristics; (2) Household Characteristics; (3) Level of Living; (4) Occupational Characteristics; (5) Income Characteristics; (6) Social Participation; (7) Opinion of Change in Quality of Life in County, 1973; (8) Opinion of Change in Quality of Life in Own Family, 1973; and (9) Opinion of Quality of Life Change in the U.S., 1973. Significant survey responses indicated that when compared with the combined responses of all four counties surveyed, Whitley County had proportionately more: older people; craftsmen (30 percentage); employed homemakers; dissatisfaction with a man's chances of getting ahead, fringe benefits, and amount of money earned; and favorable views on local change and less favorable views on own family change and U.S. change in quality of life. (JC)

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RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN HARLAN, PERRY, WHITLEY, AND WOLFE COUNTIES: SUMMARIES OF DATA FROM SURVEYS OF HOUSEHOLDS IN 1961 AND 1973

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Whitley County Databook

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PREFACE

The purpose of preparing this databook is to provide local leaders and officials with information obtained from sample surveys of households in Harlan, Perry, Whitley and Wolfe counties. The data were compiled from surveys in 1961 and 1973--made for somewhat different but related purposes. Both surveys included information on selected social and economic characteristics and attitudes of the households and of family members thereby permitting comparisons of households at two points in time. The 1973 survey also obtained considerable information on attitudes about changes in aspects of the quality of life in each county since 1960.

Area sampling procedures were used in both instances to identify households from which information was obtained. In the 1961 survey only residents in open country areas of each county were interviewed, while the 1973 survey included residents of non-open country as well as open country areas. The sampling procedure involved a random selection of small-area sample segments and then a random selection of households to be interviewed in each segment. The sampling rate of open country households in each county was determined by dividing the number of open country households in each county by the total number of open country households in all four counties. Proportionate sampling rates also were used in non-open country areas. Consequently, the data obtained and summarized in the tables approximate those which would have been obtained if a simple random sample of households in all four counties had been drawn. In both surveys the person(s) interviewed were the household Head and/or Homemaker.

The survey in 1961 was made as part of an Agricultural Experiment Station research project on Factors in the Adjustment of Families and Individuals to Changing Conditions in Low Income Rural Areas. The 1973 survey is part of a research project on Rural Development and the Quality of Life in the Rural South. These studies--made in cooperation with Agricultural Experiment Stations in several southern states[1]--reflect an interest in rural development, which has been maintained for more than a decade, by members of the Department of Sociology. Support of these research studies by the Agricultural Experiment Station, College of Agriculture, University of Kentucky, is gratefully acknowledged.

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[1] Agricultural Experiment Stations in the following states are cooperating with Kentucky in the present study: Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Texas.

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INTERPRETIVE SUMMARY

Residential characteristics. If we generalize from the 1973 sample, the great majority of Whitley County families, whether in the open country or non-open country (towns), own and live in a single family house on a hard surfaced road.[1] Most of those interviewed said they had not changed residence in the past 5 years and did not desire to move, although this was less true of those in the towns (Corbin and Williamsburg) than in the country. Except for the somewhat greater mobility of the families in towns than those in the country in the past 5 years, the residential characteristics of Whitley County residents in 1973 were much like those in all counties studied (Clay, Perry, Whitley, and Wolfe).

Since 1961, access of open country residents to the outside has improved tremendously, as it has in the other counties studied--32 percent then compared to 73 percent now living on a hard surfaced road. In 1973 the proportion of families living on farms had decreased to 5 percent (from 12 percent in 1961). Home ownership and residential satisfaction did not change much during the 12 years.

Household characteristics. The typical household in Whitley County in 1973 had 1 to 3 persons (64 percent) and a male head of household (78 percent). Most heads of households had had from 5 to 11 years schooling (61 percent), were married (74 percent) and had children living at home (51 percent). Their median age was in the late 50's and more than a third were 65 years or older. One out of 5 heads of households was widowed.

Compared with heads of households living in the towns, those in the country had had less schooling, but in other respects the differences in household composition were small. The proportion of one- and two-person households in Whitley County is somewhat greater, especially in the country, than in the four counties combined, and somewhat more Whitley County families consisted of a single person or married couple aged 60 or older. More household heads were 65 and over. In other respects Whitley County households in 1973 were much like those in all the counties surveyed.

In the past 12 years the size of country households in Whitley County has become much smaller; slightly fewer have children 18 or older living at home and more consist of a single person or married couple aged 60 or older. Heads of households living in the country in 1973 have had a little more schooling than was the case in 1961. In most respects the change in Whitley County, or lack of it, has been characteristic of all the counties studies.

Occupational characteristics. Only about half of the heads of household were "fully able to work" and employed full-time in 1973. This was true of both town and country household heads, and the proportions for Whitley County were slightly lower than for all counties combined. Craftsmen were the largest occupational grouping of male heads (30 percent), and

[1] In the Interpretive Summary the terms country and town will be used to refer to the tabular data labeled open country (O.C.) and non-open country (N.C.), respectively.

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this group comprised a larger proportion in Whitley than in the four counties. Twenty-three percent of the homemakers were also employed outside the home, and the proportion of country homemakers employed (21 percent) was higher than in the four counties (16 percent).

In the past 12 years the percentage of household heads living in the country who are retired has increased substantially. Among the employed male heads the proportion in farm occupations has decreased drastically and the proportion of craftsmen has doubled. The percentage of homemakers in the country who are employed has greatly increased though it is still relatively small. These changes are similar to those for the four counties combined.

The typical employed male household head liked most aspects of his work, including the hours, steadiness, kind of work, working conditions, amount of responsibility, and work associates. About one out of two liked his chances of getting ahead, fringe benefits, and amount of money earned; but the proportion disliking each of these latter aspects was substantial too. Except for the chances of getting ahead and fringe benefits, about which residents of towns were more favorable than country residents, the differences by residence were small. In their opinions about their work Whitley County residents were much like those in all four counties combined.

Since 1961, satisfaction with work has generally declined on the part of employed male heads in the country. On more than half of the aspects satisfaction declined substantially and on other aspects there was little change. The biggest declines were in satisfaction with a man's chances of getting ahead (73 to 48 percent), fringe benefits (62 to 40 percent), and amount of money earned (70 to 48 percent). Although employed male heads in all counties tended to be less satisfied with most aspects of their work, the drop in satisfaction was often greater in Whitley than in all counties combined. In some counties, but not in Whitley, satisfaction with steadiness of work and working conditions increased substantially.

Level of living. Four of five families in Whitley County live in a house with 4 to 6 rooms, and this is about the same as in all four counties. Most of the homes in Whitley and in all counties have the various modern conveniences and have them in about the same proportion, but Whitley is a little lower in the proportion with piped water and the facilities dependent on it. Whitley does not differ from the other counties in communication items.

However, Whitley's country homes have substantially fewer material possessions than those in towns, and for many items the differences in Whitley County are larger than in all four counties combined.

Compared with the situation in Whitley County in 1961, the homes of country residents are somewhat larger now and material possessions have greatly increased. The proportion of households having a hot water heater, home freezer, electric sewing machine, inside flush toilet, bath or shower, air conditioner, vacuum cleaner, and telephone more than doubled in the 12 years. As remarkable as this is, there are many families who still do not have such important items as piped water, a modern kitchen, or modern bathroom; and in many cases the improvement in level of living has been less extensive than for residents in country areas of the other counties.

Communication items also increased substantially in Whitley and in all counties. In Whitley, as in all four counties in the past 12 years, while incomes have increased and the number of children in households have decreased, material possessions have increased substantially.

Income. While over half of the families in Whitley County had 1972 incomes above $4,000, about 1 family in 5 had an income below $2,000. Proportionately fewer country than town families (45 to 69 percent, respectively) had incomes of $4,000 or more and twice as many had low incomes. In these respects incomes of families in Whitley County were similar to (although slightly lower than) those in all the counties combined.

Incomes of country families have increased substantially in Whitley County since 1961, as in all four counties. Moreover, the rate of increase in incomes of country families in Whitley County has been somewhat greater than for the four counties, such that the difference which formerly existed has been considerably reduced.

Salaries, wages, and profits from business was the major source of income for most families (51 percent), followed by various sources of retirement income (41 percent). But considerably more country than town families depended mainly on retirement income. The proportion of country families mainly dependent on Social Security and other retirement income increased substantially in the past 12 years, while those mainly dependent on income from operating a farm or from welfare decreased. Those getting part of their income from investments quadrupled to 16 percent. In most respects the 12 year changes in incomes and sources of income are similar to those in the four counties.

About a third of the male household heads in Whitley County considered their current income unsatisfactory and 41 percent said it was insufficient. Half of the country families but only a fourth in the towns thought their income insufficient. In these respects income dissatisfaction of male heads in Whitley County was similar to that in the four counties. However, in the past 12 years proportionately more of those living in the country have become dissatisfied with their incomes and this increase in dissatisfaction was greater in Whitley County than in the four counties.

Social participation. Although one family in 5 in Whitley County in 1973 was not participating in any formally organized group, such as a church, lodge, or civic club, 3 out of 10 were participating at a relatively high level. In Whitley County, as in the four counties, participation in such organizations was much greater in town than in the country but participation rates were generally higher in Whitley. The proportions of country families in Whitley since 1961, who participate little or none and the proportion who are "high" or "very high" participators have both increased, with a big decrease in the middle category. The same trend is evident in all four counties, but to a lesser extent.

The most popular leisure time activities in 1973 were television watching, games, and other activities indoors (69 percent) and various outdoor activities (45 percent), of which hunting and fishing were perhaps most common. Compared to country people, those in towns more often engaged

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in "participant," "spectator," "neighborhood and community," "indoor" and "formal association," activities. In general, families in Whitley County participated less actively in all forms of leisure time activities than did those in all the counties surveyed.

Opinions of change in quality of life. Most of the people surveyed (74 percent) felt that "in general and on the average" the quality of life for most people in Whitley County had improved during the past decade. Proportionately more in towns (84 percent) felt the quality of life for most people had improved than in the country (69 percent), and slightly more people in Whitley County than in all four counties felt that improvement had occurred. In this respect the subjective opinions of most people contrast somewhat with the objective facts of the amount of improvement in incomes and levels of living noted earlier.

More than half of the respondents saw improvement in most of the specific aspects of the quality of life, namely, public schools, higher educational opportunities, agriculture, medical care and services, welfare programs, the situation for poor people, transportation, incomes, job opportunities, recreational opportunities, public utilities, public housing, opportunities for both the young and the elderly and for Blacks, and the county as a place to live. Moreover, for 14 of these 16 quality of life aspects, half or more of the people surveyed thought that the current situation was "pretty good" or "very good." Although for some aspects, such as opportunities for the young and for the elderly, country people were as likely as those in towns to believe that improvement had occurred, for most aspects this belief was most prevalent among those living in the towns.

It is evident that the people of Whitley County were more optimistic than those of all counties combined as to the favorable direction of change in the past decade. In contrast to the other counties, substantially higher proportions of both town and country people in Whitley thought there had been improvement in the situations for agriculture, jobs, recreation, public housing, the young and the old, and for Blacks. Medical care and health services is the only quality of life aspect for which the Whitley majority for "improved" was smaller than in all the counties.

However, on some aspects of life--county government, law enforcement, obedience to laws, buying power of income, and religion--Whitley countians were more divided as to the direction of change in the past decade; and as to politics and political parties and the quality of the physical environment most were convinced that no change had occurred. Opinions of persons in all the counties were similarily divided on these matters, though Whitley countians usually assessed the situation a little more favorably than others. Substantially more in Whitley saw improvement in county government, though the percentage was still low.

Opinions of change in own family situation. When interviewed, one-third rated their own family situation as "fair" or "very poor" five years ago, but only 15 percent rated it that way currently. Forty-three percent thought their current situation was "good" or "very good" and 55 percent thought that they were "somewhat" to "much" better off than 10 years ago. However, about 1 out of 6 thought that they were "somewhat" to "much" worse off now.

Town and country people in Whitley tended to differ in their subjective assessments of what had happened in their personal situation in the recent past. Relatively fewer country people thought that they were "better off" and relatively more thought they were "worse off." Some who rated their family situation as "good" five years ago, now see it as only "pretty good", while many who regarded their former situation as "very poor" or "fair" now consider it as "pretty good." Thus, most country people (52 percent) now see their current situation as average while only a quarter (25 percent) of town people rate their situation this way and fully 62 percent say their situation is "good" or "very good." In all of the comparisons of Whitley and the other counties, both overall, over time, and between country and town people, Whitley countians assess their own family situations a little less optimistically than the people in the other counties assess theirs--in contrast to their feeling more favorable than other counties about the quality of life change for "most people" and the improvement and present situation in most aspects of the county's life.

Opinions of quality of life change in the U.S. Whitley countians were clearly less satisfied with national than with local trends, and they were also less satisfied about life in the United States than were people in the other counties. More Whitley countians said that life in the U.S. is getting worse than said it is getting better. The majority said it was about the same or a mixture of better and worse, there was not much difference between town and country people on this question.

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Table 1. Residential Characteristics

Item	Whitley County 1961 O.C.*	Whitley County 1973 O.C.*	Whitley County 1973 N.C.*	Whitley County 1973 Total	4-County Total** 1961 O.C.*	4-County Total** 1973 O.C.*	4-County Total** 1973 N.C.*	4-County Total** 1973 Total
	-percent-				-percent-			
Type of House								
Mobile home	--	5	6	6	--	8	4	7
House (single family)	--	95	86	91	--	92	92	92
Apartment	--	0	8	3	--	0	4	1
		(94)+	(49)	(143)		(320)	(144)	(464)
Type of Road								
Hard surface	32	73	92	80	40	79	96	84
Other	68	27	8	20	60	21	4	16
	(78)	(94)	(49)	(143)	(266)	(320)	(144)	(464)
Farm Classification								
Farm	12	5	2	4	20	11	2	8
Nonfarm	88	95	98	96	80	89	98	92
	(78)	(94)	(49)	(143)	(266)	(319)	(144)	(463)
Home Tenure								
Own home	75	73	78	75	69	73	69	72
Pay cash rent	22	15	20	17	25	18	26	20
Other	3	12	2	8	6	9	5	8
	(77)	(94)	(49)	(143)	(265)	(320)	(144)	(464)
Residential Satisfaction of Male Heads								
Would not like to move	88	90	76	85	77	85	75	82
Would like to move	12	8	20	12	21	14	23	17
Undecided	0	2	4	3	2	1	2	1
	(58)	(48)	(25)	(73)	(212)	(158)	(61)	(219)
Residence Change in Past Five Years								
No change	--	85	76	81	--	82	82	82
One change	--	10	16	12	--	12	13	12
Two changes	--	2	6	4	--	4	4	4
Three or more changes	--	3	2	3	--	2	1	2
		(91)	(49)	(140)		(316)	(143)	(459)

*O.C. - Open country household
N.C. - Non-open country household
**4-County Total - all households surveyed in Harlan, Perry, Whitley, and Wolfe counties
+Number in parenthesis is the total respondents for the item.

Table 2. Household Characteristics

Item	Whitley County				4-County Total**			
	1961	1973			1961	1973		
	O.C.*	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total	O.C.*	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total
	-percent-				-percent-			
Size of Household								
One	8	13	16	14	8	8	14	10
Two	30	38	35	37	25	34	33	34
Three	15	10	19	13	17	19	20	19
Four	10	16	12	15	14	16	15	16
Five	10	13	10	12	11	11	12	11
Six	10	4	4	4	8	5	3	5
Seven	10	3	0	2	6	5	1	3
Eight	4	2	2	2	5	1	1	1
Nine or more	3	1	2	1	6	1	1	1
	(78)	(94)	(49)	(143)	(266)	(320)	(144)	(464)
Race								
White	99	98	100	99	100	99	98	99
Black	1	2	0	1	0	1	2	1
	(78)	(94)	(49)	(143)	(266)	(320)	(144)	(464)
Sex of Head								
Male	82	78	78	78	84	83	74	80
Female	18	22	22	22	16	17	26	20
	(78)	(94)	(49)	(143)	(266)	(320)	(144)	(464)
Age of Head								
Less than 20 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20-29	8	8	8	8	8	13	10	12
30-39	21	12	10	11	18	13	11	13
40-44	9	12	12	12	12	7	13	9
45-49	6	5	10	7	7	9	6	8
50-54	10	10	12	10	12	13	15	13
55-64	17	18	15	17	18	14	21	16
65-74	19	25	23	25	16	21	18	20
75 or more	10	10	10	10	9	10	6	9
	(78)	(94)	(49)	(143)	(266)	(320)	(144)	(464)
Education of Head								
No school	0	1	0	1	3	3	1	2
1-3 years	12	5	6	6	14	11	4	9
4	8	9	4	7	11	8	4	7
5-7	25	20	6	15	25	19	8	15
8	34	39	21	33	27	31	19	27
9-11	9	13	14	13	9	11	16	13
H.S. diploma	5	8	21	12	7	10	21	14
1-3 years college	3	4	16	8	1	4	15	7
College graduate or more	4	1	12	5	3	3	12	6
	(76)	(92)	(49)	(141)	(264)	(318)	(144)	(462)

Table 2. (Continued)

	1951	1973			1951	1973		
	O.C.*	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total	O.C.*	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total
Marital Status of Head								
Married	81	75	74	74	80	79	72	76
Never Married	2	2	2	2	1	2	3	2
Divorced	0	5	2	4	2	3	4	4
Separated	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1
Widowed	17	17	22	19	17	15	21	17
	(78)	(94)	(49)	(143)	(266)	(320)	(144)	(464)
Type of Family								
Head and spouse	69	70	74	71	67	73	66	71
Head only	14	20	26	23	14	15	25	18
Head and spouse plus other single adult(s)	11	3	0	2	11	5	5	5
Other types	6	7	0	4	8	7	4	6
	(78)	(94)	(49)	(143)	(266)	(320)	(144)	(464)
Stage in Family Cycle								
Head less than 35 years(no children)	1	3	2	3	2	5	6	5
Children under 4 yrs.	4	4	2	3	4	6	3	5
Children 4-9	9	9	8	8	10	10	8	10
Children 10-17	22	17	29	21	21	21	21	21
Children 18+	27	20	16	19	32	20	24	21
Head (and/or spouse) only, aged 35-59 (neither less than 35)	13	12	14	13	10	12	17	14
Head (and/or spouse) only, both 60+	24	35	29	33	21	23	21	24
	(78)	(94)	(49)	(143)	(266)	(320)	(144)	(464)

Table 3. Occupational Characteristics

Item	Whitley County				4-County Total**			
	1961	1973			1961	1973		
	O.C.*	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total	O.C.*	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total
	-percent-				-percent-			
Ability of Head to Work								
Fully able	58	50	53	51	63	52	64	56
Limited	6	11	6	9	11	11	5	9
Disabled	[31] [1]	0	2	1	[20] [1]	3	2	3
Retired(disabled)		21	12	18		18	11	16
Retired	5	18	27	21	6	16	18	16
	(78)	(94)	(49)	(143)	(266)	(320)	(144)	(464)
Employment Status of Male Heads								
Employed full time	[63] [2]	48	53	50	[65] [2]	50	65	54
Employed part time		5	3	4		6	3	5
Unemployed--looking for work	2	7	5	6	5	5	6	5
Unemployed--not looking for work	35	40	39	40	30	39	26	36
	(63)	(73)	(38)	(111)	(219)	(264)	(107)	(371)
Occupation of Male Heads								
Farm Operator or manager	22	5	4	5	16	7	1	5
Farm laborer, foreman	5	2	0	1	9	1	0	1
Manager, proprietor, professional, technical	7	0	32	11	9	6	29	14
Sales, clerical	5	2	4	3	3	4	9	6
Craftsman, foreman	14	29	32	30	9	20	27	22
Domestic or service	7	0	14	5	5	5	9	6
Operative	30	31	14	25	40	29	17	25
Laborer	10	31	0	20	9	28	8	21
	(41)	(42)	(22)	(64)	(153)	(153)	(78)	(231)
Employment Status of Homemaker								
Not employed outside home	--	72	60	68	--	80	61	74
Employed full time	--	19	21	20	--	13	26	17
Employed part time	--	2	4	3	--	3	3	3
Unemployed--looking for work	--	1	4	2	--	2	4	2
Unemployed--not looking for work	--	6	11	7	--	2	6	4
		(91)	(47)	(138)		(307)	(140)	(447)

[1] The categories "disabled and retired (disabled)" were combined in 1961.

[2] In 1961 the categories "employed full time" and "employed part time" were combined.

Table 3. (Continued)

	1961	1973			1961	1973		
	O.C.*	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total	O.C.*	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total
Occupation of Homemaker								
Not employed	95	80	74	78	94	84	70	80
Manager, proprietor, professional, technical	3	1	9	4	2	3	13	6
Sales, clerical	0	2	4	3	1	3	6	4
Domestic, service	1	7	9	7	2	4	8	5
Operative	1	10	4	8	1	6	3	5
	(75)	(91)	(47)	(138)	(254)	(307)	(140)	(447)
Occupational Satisfaction of Male Heads								
No. hours must work :								
Dislikes	3	16	17	16	10	18	19	18
Likes	94	84	83	84	88	82	81	82
Don't know	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
	(33)	(25)	(12)	(37)	(124)	(73)	(37)	(110)
Steadiness of Work :								
Dislikes	12	8	17	11	20	12	5	10
Likes	88	92	83	89	80	88	95	90
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	(33)	(25)	(12)	(37)	(124)	(73)	(37)	(110)
Doing same job :								
Dislikes	0	14	17	15	9	13	12	13
Likes	100	86	83	85	91	85	88	86
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1
	(33)	(21)	(12)	(33)	(122)	(63)	(33)	(96)
Way boss treats him :								
Dislikes	0	5	18	9	1	3	7	4
Likes	100	90	82	88	99	94	93	94
Don't know	0	5	0	3	0	3	0	2
	(28)	(21)	(11)	(32)	(102)	(60)	(30)	(90)
Working Conditions :								
Dislikes	6	8	0	6	16	9	3	7
Likes	94	92	100	94	84	90	94	91
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	2
	(33)	(24)	(12)	(36)	(124)	(69)	(37)	(106)
Amount of responsibility :								
Dislikes	3	12	17	14	10	8	6	6
Likes	94	80	83	81	88	84	94	88
Don't know	3	8	0	5	2	8	0	6
	(33)	(25)	(12)	(37)	(123)	(70)	(36)	(106)
Importance of job to others :								
Dislikes	3	5	0	3	2	6	0	4
Likes	94	90	100	94	88	85	100	90
Don't know	3	5	0	3	10	9	0	6
	(33)	(20)	(12)	(32)	(123)	(68)	(37)	(105)

Table 3 (Continued)

	1961	1973			1961	1973		
	O.C.*	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total	O.C.*	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total
Chances of getting ahead :								
Dislikes	15	48	25	40	29	49	32	44
Likes	73	48	75	57	64	49	68	55
Don't know	12	4	0	3	7	2	0	1
	(33)	(23)	(12)	(35)	(124)	(67)	(34)	(101)
Retirement and other benefits :								
Dislikes	25	40	29	36	34	46	16	35
Likes	62	40	71	50	61	43	72	53
Don't know	13	20	0	14	5	11	12	12
	(32)	(15)	(7)	(22)	(110)	(44)	(25)	(69)
Amount of money earned :								
Dislikes	30	52	42	49	27	48	24	40
Likes	70	48	58	51	73	51	76	59
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
	(33)	(21)	(12)	(33)	(124)	(69)	(37)	(106)
Kind of work done :								
Dislikes	3	4	8	5	5	6	3	5
Likes	97	96	92	95	95	93	97	94
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
	(33)	(25)	(12)	(37)	(124)	(73)	(37)	(110)
People worked with :								
Dislikes	0	0	8	3	1	3	6	4
Likes	100	100	92	97	99	97	94	96
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	(33)	(23)	(12)	(35)	(118)	(62)	(36)	(98)

Table 4. Level of Living

Item	Whitley County				4-County Total**			
	1961	1973			1961	1973		
	O.C.*	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total	O.C.*	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total
	-percent-				-percent			
Number of rooms in house								
One-two	3	4	0	3	3	1	0	1
Three	10	4	2	4	5	3	4	3
Four	26	24	16	21	29	28	17	25
Five	20	29	31	29	26	33	24	31
Six	22	26	35	29	21	24	31	26
Seven	15	8	4	6	9	7	9	7
Eight	3	3	4	4	4	2	9	4
Nine+	1	2	8	4	3	2	6	3
	(78)	(91)	(49)	(140)	(266)	(312)	(144)	(456)
Material Possessions (percent possessing each item[1])								
Automobile	46	61	78	66	47	64	78	68
Truck	21	27	10	21	22	30	13	25
Gas or Elect. range	68	92	98	94	64	94	99	96
Piped water	32	52	100	69	41	74	99	82
Hot water heater	23	49	92	64	23	60	96	71
Mechanical refrigerator	90	99	100	99	91	99	100	100
Home freezer	19	45	41	43	17	42	31	39
Elect.sewing machine	13	44	51	46	12	45	58	49
Inside flush toilet	10	48	98	65	15	61	99	73
Bath or shower	24	49	98	66	21	60	98	72
Air conditioner	3	7	41	19	2	12	36	20
Kitchen sink	56	77	100	85	58	87	99	91
Vacuum cleaner	23	54	90	66	27	60	87	69
Telephone	27	62	88	71	26	65	85	72
Central Heating	13	23	88	46	13	33	75	46
Radio	89	96	94	95	85	95	97	96
Television	68	90	100	94	58	93	99	95
Weekly newspaper	6	17	29	21	11	20	38	25
Farm or trade magazine	22	27	16	23	14	24	29	25
Magazine for women	6	13	47	25	7	19	47	28
Other week or month magazine	4	22	63	36	3	30	65	41
	(78)	(94)	(49)	(143)	(266)	(320)	(144)	(464)

[1]Percentages based on same n for each item.

Table 5. Income Characteristics

Item	Whitley County				4-County Total**			
	1961	1973			1961	1973		
	O.C.*	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total	O.C.*	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total
	-percent-				-percent-			
Total Family Income								
None	4	0	0	0	4	0	0	0
$1 - 999	30	4	0	3	31	4	1	3
1000 - 1999	29	21	11	18	22	16	6	13
2000 - 3999	27	30	20	26	25	31	20	28
4000+	10	45	69	53	18	49	73	56
	(77)	(91)	(46)	(137)	(264)	(312)	(138)	(450)
Sources of Income[1]								
Salary, wages, business	45	47	57	50	44	49	67	55
Farm income	13	4	2	4	22	11	1	8
Investments	4	16	20	18	2	11	17	13
Retirement, pensions (social security)	35	53	47	51	29	50	44	48
Welfare	21	23	0	15	17[2]	23	5	17
Unemployment compensation	5	0	2	1	8	1	3	2
Miscellaneous	5	0	6	2	7	4	8	5
	(77)	(49)	(94)	(143)	(263)	(320)	(144)	(464)
Major Source of Income								
Salary, wages, business	39	45	63	51	48	45	68	52
Farm profits	11	2	2	2	10	3	1	2
Investments	3	1	2	1	1	1	1	1
Retirement, pensions (social security)	28	46	31	41	25	44	27	39
Welfare	15	6	2	4	12	7	1	5
Unemployment compensation	3	0	0	1	3	0	1	1
Miscellaneous	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
	(74)	(94)	(46)	(140)	(227)	(315)	(141)	(456)
Income Satisfaction of male heads								
Very satisfactory	2	13	12	12	7	6	10	7
Satisfactory	55	52	60	55	60	60	67	62
Unsatisfactory	43	35	28	33	33	34	23	31
	(58)	(48)	(25)	(73)	(211)	(158)	(61)	(219)
Income Sufficiency (Opinions of Male Heads Only)								
Judged insufficient	33	50	24	41	47	43	20	36
	(54)	(48)	(25)	(73)	(202)	(158)	(61)	(219)

[1] Percents listed indicate those receiving some income from each source.
[2] Total n upon which 1961 percents are based in the welfare category is 241. County n is 72.

Table 6. Social Participation

Item	Whitley County				4-County Total**			
	1961	1973			1961	1973		
	O.C.*	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total	O.C.*	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total
	-percent-				-percent-			
Participation in formal organizations								
Membership and Participation in Organizations:								
None	22	27	14	2[illegible]	34	31	18	27
Low	27	32	23	29	25	30	17	26
Medium	36	17	22	19	29	22	26	23
High	13	20	16	19	10	13	18	15
Very high	2	4	25	11	2	4	21	9
	(78)	(94)	(49)	(143)	(266)	(320)	(144)	(464)
Participation in Leisure Time Activities[1]								
Hunting and/or fishing:								
Never	--	51	45	49	--	44	42	43
Sometimes	--	30	37	32	--	29	35	31
Often	--	19	18	19	--	27	23	26
		(94)	(49)	(143)		(320)	(144)	(464)
Camping, boating, etc.:								
Never	--	78	74	76	--	74	67	72
Sometimes	--	18	18	18	--	15	22	17
Often	--	4	8	6	--	11	11	11
		(94)	(49)	(143)		(320)	(144)	(464)
In-door Activities:								
Never	--	7	2	6	--	4	1	3
Sometimes	--	26	23	25	--	17	16	16
Often	--	67	75	69	--	79	83	81
		(94)	(49)	(143)		(320)	(144)	(464)
Out-door Activities:								
Never	--	22	24	23	--	18	30	22
Sometimes	--	31	33	32	--	24	25	25
Often	--	47	43	45	--	58	45	53
		(94)	(49)	(143)		(320)	(144)	(464)
Participant Activities:								
Never	--	78	57	71	--	68	53	63
Sometimes	--	16	25	19	--	14	22	17
Often	--	6	18	10	--	18	25	20
		(94)	(49)	(143)		(320)	(144)	(464)
Spectator Activities:								
Never	--	74	47	65	--	64	44	58
Sometimes	--	13	29	18	--	12	19	14
Often	--	13	24	17	--	24	37	28
		(94)	(49)	(143)	--	(320)	(144)	(464)

Table 6. (Continued)

	1961	1973			1961	1973		
	O.C.*	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total	O.C.*	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total
Neighborhood and Community Activities:								
Never	--	78	49	68	--	60	33	52
Sometimes	--	19	37	25	--	25	38	29
Often	--	3	14	7	--	15	29	19
		(94)	(49)	(143)		(320)	(144)	(464)
Informal Social Activities:								
Never	--	68	82	73	--	76	69	74
Sometimes	--	28	14	23	--	16	17	17
Often	--	4	4	4	--	8	14	9
		(94)	(49)	(143)		(320)	(144)	(464)
Formal Associations:								
Never	--	98	71	89	--	90	64	82
Sometimes	--	1	21	8	--	4	19	8
Often	--	1	8	3	--	6	17	10
		(94)	(49)	(143)		(320)	(144)	(464)

[1]No data was collected on this item or any of the remaining items in 1961.

Table 7. Opinion of Change in Quality of Life in County, 1973

Item	Whitley County 1973 O.C.*	Whitley County 1973 N.C.*	Whitley County 1973 Total	4-County Total** 1973 O.C.*	4-County Total** 1973 N.C.*	4-County Total** 1973 Total
	-percent-			-percent-		
General Quality of Life						
Quality of Life for Most People:						
Improved	69	84	74	63	77	68
Gotten worse	14	8	12	20	9	17
Remained same	17	8	14	17	14	15
	(83)	(39)	(122)	(274)	(125)	(399)
County Government						
Change in:						
Improved	42	49	44	27	42	32
Gotten worse	18	11	16	21	11	18
Remained same	40	40	40	52	47	50
	(67)	(35)	(102)	(211)	(108)	(319)
Current situation:						
Very good	10	8	10	7	6	6
Pretty good	38	35	37	28	36	31
Fair	31	35	32	41	40	41
Poor	21	22	21	24	18	22
	(68)	(37)	(105)	(214)	(110)	(324)
Politics and political parties						
Change in:						
Improved	22	15	19	16	16	16
Gotten worse	24	23	24	25	19	23
Remained same	54	62	57	59	65	61
	(70)	(34)	(104)	(208)	(99)	(307)
Current situation :						
Very good	5	0	3	5	1	4
Pretty good	28	20	26	22	28	24
Fair	39	49	42	45	43	44
Poor	28	31	29	28	28	28
	(67)	(35)	(102)	(206)	(100)	(306)
Public Schools						
Change in:						
Improved	78	95	83	77	78	77
Gotten worse	15	3	11	12	12	12
Remained same	7	2	6	11	10	11
	(82)	(39)	(121)	(259)	(121)	(380)
Current situation :						
Very good	13	18	15	29	31	30
Pretty good	63	66	64	48	48	48
Fair	16	16	16	16	13	15
Poor	8	0	5	7	8	7
	(79)	(38)	(117)	(258)	(120)	(378)

Table 7. (Continued)

	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total
Higher Educational Opportunities						
Change in:						
Improved	77	87	80	79	87	82
Gotten worse	8	3	6	5	2	4
Remained same	15	10	14	16	11	14
	(77)	(39)	(116)	(244)	(122)	(366)
Current situation:						
Very good	17	13	16	23	35	27
Pretty good	59	66	61	52	47	50
Fair	15	16	15	17	13	16
Poor	9	5	8	8	5	7
	(76)	(38)	(114)	(243)	(121)	(364)
Agriculture						
Change in:						
Improved	59	61	59	40	37	39
Gotten worse	22	24	23	33	39	35
Remained same	19	15	18	27	24	26
	(73)	(33)	(106)	(231)	(91)	(322)
Current situation:						
Very good	4	3	4	5	7	5
Pretty good	49	50	50	36	34	36
Fair	31	41	34	33	33	33
Poor	16	6	12	26	26	26
	(71)	(34)	(105)	(230)	(93)	(323)
Medical care and Health service						
Change in:						
Improved	50	60	53	62	65	63
Gotten worse	30	17	26	19	17	18
Remained same	20	23	21	19	18	19
	(80)	(40)	(120)	(264)	(126)	(390)
Current situation :						
Very good	9	15	11	25	30	27
Pretty good	43	33	39	34	31	33
Fair	27	32	29	23	21	22
Poor	21	20	21	18	18	18
	(82)	(40)	(122)	(268)	(125)	(393)
Welfare Programs						
Change in:						
Improved	51	71	57	62	65	63
Gotten worse	22	10	18	17	15	16
Remained same	27	19	25	21	20	21
	(70)	(31)	(101)	(226)	(103)	(329)
Current situation :						
Very good	3	3	3	11	20	14
Pretty good	48	65	53	46	45	45
Fair	25	26	25	28	23	27
Poor	24	6	19	15	12	14
	(69)	(31)	(100)	(226)	(103)	(329)

Table 7. (Continued)

	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total
Situation for Poor People						
Change in:						
Improved	79	87	82	74	77	75
Gotten worse	6	3	5	8	3	6
Remained same	15	10	13	18	20	19
	(82)	(40)	(122)	(256)	(122)	(378)
Current situation :						
Very good	1	0	1	9	11	10
Pretty good	49	62	53	45	46	45
Fair	37	30	35	35	32	34
Poor	13	8	11	11	11	11
	(80)	(40)	(120)	(253)	(123)	(376)
Law Enforcement						
Change in:						
Improved	26	53	35	20	43	27
Gotten worse	42	18	34	38	24	34
Remained same	32	29	31	42	33	39
	(77)	(38)	(115)	(259)	(120)	(379)
Current situation :						
Very good	1	8	3	2	9	4
Pretty good	32	55	40	27	33	29
Fair	38	26	34	31	37	33
Poor	29	11	23	40	21	34
	(77)	(38)	(115)	(258)	(121)	(379)
Obedience to Laws						
Change in:						
Improved	33	41	36	20	27	22
Gotten worse	37	33	36	38	31	36
Remained same	30	26	28	42	42	42
	(78)	(39)	(117)	(258)	(124)	(382)
Current situation:						
Very good	6	0	4	4	5	4
Pretty good	39	46	42	33	36	34
Fair	34	44	37	37	41	38
Poor	21	10	17	26	18	24
	(77)	(39)	(116)	(257)	(124)	(381)
Transportation (Roads)						
Change in:						
Improved	79	82	80	71	75	73
Gotten worse	15	13	14	18	16	17
Remained same	6	5	6	11	9	10
	(83)	(39)	(122)	(274)	(124)	(398)
Current situation :						
Very good	4	5	4	6	11	8
Pretty good	53	56	54	49	43	47
Fair	30	21	27	26	22	25
Poor	13	18	15	19	24	20
	(83)	(39)	(122)	(274)	(124)	(398)

Table 7. (Continued)

	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total
Income						
Change in:						
Improved	86	84	85	79	81	79
Gotten worse	1	3	2	3	5	4
Remained same	13	13	13	18	14	17
	(78)	(38)	(116)	(251)	(119)	(370)
Current situation:						
Very good	5	3	4	6	17	11
Pretty good	56	61	57	50	52	51
Fair	30	26	29	34	22	30
Poor	9	10	10	8	9	8
	(77)	(38)	(115)	(252)	(119)	(371)
Job Opportunities						
Change in:						
Improved	73	74	73	47	45	47
Gotten worse	11	5	9	26	22	24
Remained same	16	21	18	27	33	29
	(81)	(38)	(119)	(260)	(122)	(382)
Current situation:						
Very good	5	3	4	3	4	3
Pretty good	44	43	44	26	24	26
Fair	28	27	28	26	31	27
Poor	23	27	24	45	41	44
	(79)	(37)	(116)	(261)	(121)	(382)
Buying Power of Income						
Change in:						
Improved	19	27	22	26	23	26
Gotten worse	44	53	47	42	50	44
Remained same	37	20	31	35	27	30
	(80)	(40)	(120)	(259)	(118)	(377)
Current situation:						
Very good	0	0	0	1	0	1
Pretty good	26	23	25	24	25	24
Fair	39	50	43	43	43	43
Poor	35	27	32	32	32	32
	(80)	(40)	(120)	(259)	(116)	(375)
Religion						
Change in:						
Improved	33	77	48	36	61	44
Gotten worse	26	13	22	16	7	14
Remained same	41	10	30	48	32	42
	(76)	(40)	(116)	(248)	(122)	(370)
Current situation:						
Very good	7	20	11	22	40	28
Pretty good	49	57	52	48	44	47
Fair	25	18	23	22	12	18
Poor	19	5	14	8	4	7
	(75)	(40)	(115)	(246)	(122)	(368)

Table 7. (continued)

	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total
Recreational Opportunities						
Change in:						
Improved	64	68	65	45	52	48
Gotten worse	2	0	2	7	11	8
Remained same	34	32	33	48	37	44
	(77)	(38)	(115)	(236)	(120)	(356)
Current situation:						
Very good	7	13	9	6	13	8
Pretty good	45	32	41	30	21	27
Fair	31	39	34	29	33	30
Poor	17	16	16	35	33	35
	(77)	(38)	(115)	(236)	(120)	(356)
Public Utilities						
Change in:						
Improved	87	90	87	79	79	79
Gotten worse	5	8	6	4	4	4
Remained same	8	2	7	17	17	17
	(82)	(39)	(121)	(263)	(125)	(388)
Current situation:						
Very good	13	5	11	14	23	17
Pretty good	60	80	66	57	57	57
Fair	23	10	19	22	14	19
Poor	4	5	4	7	6	7
	(82)	(39)	(121)	(264)	(126)	(390)
Physical Environment						
Change in:						
Improved	24	21	23	19	25	21
Gotten worse	28	28	28	31	34	32
Remained same	48	51	49	50	41	47
	(79)	(39)	(118)	(254)	(122)	(376)
Current situation:						
Very good	4	8	5	15	16	15
Pretty good	49	46	48	37	36	37
Fair	32	26	30	29	25	28
Poor	15	20	17	19	23	20
	(79)	(39)	(118)	(254)	(122)	(376)
Public Housing						
Change in:						
Improved	84	97	89	71	82	75
Gotten worse	4	3	3	8	9	8
Remained same	12	0	8	21	9	17
	(74)	(40)	(114)	(244)	(124)	(368)
Current situation:						
Very good	4	3	3	8	18	11
Pretty good	65	87	73	49	49	49
Fair	24	8	19	29	19	26
Poor	7	2	5	14	14	14
	(74)	(39)	(113)	(243)	(123)	(366)

Table 7. (Continued)

	OC.*	N.C.*	Total	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total
Opportunities for the Young People						
Change in:						
Improved	69	63	67	42	33	39
Gotten worse	16	3	11	20	21	20
Remained same	15	34	22	38	46	41
	(77)	(38)	(115)	(255)	(121)	(376)
Current situation:						
Very good	3	3	2	3	6	4
Pretty good	47	24	40	26	15	22
Fair	24	47	32	23	35	27
Poor	26	26	26	48	44	47
	(78)	(38)	(116)	(256)	(121)	(377)
Opportunities for Old People						
Change in:						
Improved	64	64	63	46	45	46
Gotten worse	13	8	12	12	12	12
Remained same	23	28	25	42	43	42
	(82)	(39)	(121)	(263)	(122)	(385)
Current situation:						
Very good	9	3	6	7	10	8
Pretty good	46	51	48	33	31	32
Fair	27	36	30	29	31	30
Poor	18	10	16	31	28	30
	(82)	(39)	(121)	(263)	(121)	(384)
Opportunities for the Blacks						
Change in:						
Improved	76	83	78	64	74	68
Gotten worse	0	0	0	5	3	4
Remained same	24	17	22	31	23	28
	(42)	(18)	(60)	(133)	(93)	(226)
Current situation:						
Very good	2	0	2	13	19	16
Pretty good	76	78	76	49	46	47
Fair	17	22	19	23	25	24
Poor	5	0	3	15	10	13
	(41)	(18)	(59)	(132)	(94)	(226)
County As Place to Live						
Change in:						
Improved	65	87	72	58	76	63
Gotten worse	7	3	6	9	4	8
Remained same	28	10	22	33	20	29
	(82)	(40)	(122)	(274)	(127)	(401)
Current situation:						
Very good	36	38	37	23	33	26
Pretty good	50	45	48	47	43	46
Fair	10	17	12	24	22	23
Poor	4	0	3	6	2	5
	(82)	(40)	(122)	(274)	(127)	(401)

Table 8. Opinion of Change in Quality of Life in own Family, 1973

Item	Whitley County			4-County Total**		
	1973			1973		
	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total
	-percent-			-percent-		
Rating of Family Situation						
Five years ago :						
Very poor	8	8	8	9	10	10
Fair	28	19	25	21	14	18
Pretty good	27	27	27	28	26	27
Good	29	27	28	27	26	27
Very good	8	19	12	15	24	18
	(64)	(48)	(138)	(305)	(139)	(444)
At present :						
Very poor	5	6	6	5	2	4
Fair	11	6	9	11	3	8
Pretty good	52	25	42	39	29	36
Good	21	35	26	25	36	29
Very good	11	27	17	20	30	23
	(91)	(48)	(139)	(310)	(141)	(451)
Changes in Family Situation						
Over Past 10 Years:						
Much better off	8	13	10	16	26	19
Somewhat better off	42	50	45	41	41	41
About the same	31	25	29	30	27	29
Somewhat worse off	16	12	14	8	6	8
Much worse off	2	0	2	5	0	3
	(83)	(40)	(123)	(273)	(127)	(400)

Table 9. Opinions of Change in Quality of Life in the United States, 1973

Item	Whitley County			4-County Total**		
	1973			1973		
	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total
	-percent-			-percent-		
Life in the United States						
Getting better	20	23	21	27	34	29
Getting worse	30	29	29	28	20	26
Staying about same	21	15	19	22	21	21
Some better, some worse	29	33	31	23	25	24
	(91)	(48)	(139)	(304)	(136)	(440)

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